

**INVESTIGATIVE REPORT:**

This report pertains to an investigation of the identification of the burial location, or headstone markings, of a member of the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) during the Great War 1914-1921.

**SUBMITTED TO:**

[CWGC Canadian Agency](#)

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Ottawa Ontario Canada K1A 0P4

Att: [Dominique Boulais](#)

**Report Date:** 27 February 2016

**Reason for Submission:** ("X" means purpose of the report)

<b>Casualty Identification:</b>		<b>Burial Information:</b>	
Confirmed Identity	X	Burial Location Identified	X
Most Probable Identity		Grave Stone Correction	
Questionable Identity		Grave Records Correction	X
Incorrect Identity		Request for CWGC Details	
Other		Other	

**Supporting Documents:** (# refers to attachment number; "I" information provided)

<b>Casualty Identification:</b>		<b>Burial Information:</b>	
Wylie, James Archibald	i	Loos British Cemetery	<a href="#">link</a>
15 <sup>th</sup> Battalion	i	Pas de Calais, France	i
Lieutenant	i	Plot 6 Row H Grave 2	i
Date of Death: 16/08/1917	<a href="#">link</a>	Date of Burial / Exhumation	i
Attestation Papers	<a href="#">link</a>	Cemetery Schematic	<a href="#">link</a>
Service Record	<a href="#">link</a>	Graves Registration Report	11
Circumstance of Death		Concentration of Grave	12
CEF Canada Register	1	Exhumation Report	13
War Diary Extract(s)	2	Trench Map Exhumation	14
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**Summary of Findings:**

The *Graves Registration Report (GRRF)* form for Loos British Cemetery Plot 6 Row H Grave 2 lists an Unknown Canadian Officer. The *Concentration of Graves Burial Return (COG-BR)* document reports that the remains were found at 44a.H.26.c.10.9.

The only Canadian unit that lost Officers at that location in the Great War was the 15<sup>th</sup> Canadian Infantry Battalion. The only Canadian Officer missing at that exact location is Lieutenant James Archibald Wylie.

## Details of Findings:

The findings are conclusive that the remains in Plot 6 Row H Grave 2 at the Loos British Cemetery can be no other than those of Lieutenant James Archibald Wylie. A careful examination of all of the records provides evidence that there were no other Canadian units in that area (*Bois Hugo*) that lost men that were not recovered for burial and are therefore in a known cemetery.

The findings are based on the following:

1. The *E-13 War Graves Register* for Lieutenant James Archibald Wylie reports that he was killed in action near Loos (Lens) on 16 August 1917; his grave was not registered at that time, nor was his grave located as late as November 1921. The death of Lt. Wylie at the final objective on the morning of 15 August 1917 is noted in the *Bank of Montreal Memorial Note*. On that basis, the name of Lt. Wylie was added to the Vimy Memorial (Attachment #1). The *Circumstance of Death* (COD) records for Lt. Wylie were in the group that was lost during the bombing of London in the Second World War and are thus not available for examination.
2. The War Diary extract for Thursday August 15, 1917 provides extensive detail on the actions of the 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion at the Battle of Hill 70, Loos. The stages of the attack are listed by date and time, documenting the movement of the battalion across the first objective (Blue Line) and second objective (Green Line) from 0425 to 1144 hours (Attachment #2).
3. The movement of the 15<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion is shown, as reported, to be east Hill 70 crossing through Bois Hugo, as depicted in Nicholson Map 8 and a sketch map from the battalion historical record (Attachment #3). There were no Canadian units on the left flank (*north*) of the 15th Battalion. The 15th Battalion was the left hinge of the entire Canadian Corps' assault and as such was on the Corp's extreme left (*north*) flank. Prior to the assault on the morning of 16 Aug 1917 the part of the front line that the 15th Battalion occupied for their jump-off had the British 138th Territorial Brigade of the 46th Division on its left flank in that defensive line. The regimental history, from which the sketch was extracted, states that the 15th Battalion sent Captain Donald Grant to that Brigade's right hand battalion (*which would have been the battalion on the 15th's left flank across the inter unit boundary*) to act as liaison between the two units during the attack.
4. In our analysis we have accounted for the loss of Officers from each of the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Battalions (Attachment #4). The 13<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion was on the right (*south*) flank of the 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion. There were no Officers with UNKNOWN graves, thus on the Vimy Memorial for the 13<sup>th</sup> Battalion. Officer casualties were 1 Captain (Bennett) and 1 Lieutenant (McLean), both accounted for in cemeteries. The 14<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion was in Brigade Reserve during the attack (Attachment #4a) and did not follow the attack. The 14<sup>th</sup> was to remain ready to offer assistance if required and to act in the event of an enemy counter attack.

During the period, two Lieutenants (*R. Bourgeois & J. G. Pope*) were killed and their bodies were recovered and buried in known cemeteries. At 2:15 pm a request for reinforcements was made and a company of the 14<sup>th</sup> Battalion from the Brigade Reserve arrived in the 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion's positions at 4 pm. The 15<sup>th</sup> was under heavy counterattack but held the line before the 14<sup>th</sup> arrived. This timeframe corresponds directly with the Brigade's Diary and timeline for the 14<sup>th</sup> as detailed in the report on the battle from the 15th Battalion (Attachment #4b).

The 15<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion was relieved by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Canadian Infantry Battalion at 0630 hours on 17 August 1917. All Officers are accounted for in that battalion for the period that they were in the vicinity of Loos (Attachment #4c).

5. The original situation reports from Major J. P. Girvan, Officer Commanding No. 4 Company of the 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion provides specific detail on the locations of both the Blue Line (Attachment #5a) and the Green Line (Attachment # 5b) on the morning of August 15, 1917. Each report contains written notes and a marked up Trench Map (57D Sectors H25 and H26). Additionally, in another situation report also from Major J.P. Girvan, his position at the Blue Line is marked on the trench map and his notes clearly state "*No sign Graham, MacDonald.*" Indicating Lt. McDonald was missing at that point in the attack at the Blue Line (Attachment #5c).

Further corroboration of the death of Lt. McDonald at the *Blue Line* and Lt. Wylie at the *Green Line* is provided in an extract from "*An Account of Operations at Hill 70*" (Attachment #5d), which reports that Lt. McDonald was killed in the attack at the *Blue Line* before 6:15 am.

In a page from the War Diary of the 15th Bn entitled "*Summary of Reports on the attack against Hill 70*" (Attachment #5e), it is made clear that at 5:42 am the battalion had reached their objective (*Green Line*) and by 6:15 am Maj. Girvan who was at the objective reported it was being consolidated. Here Lt Wylie is noted as having been killed at 6:30 am. This confirms the position of Lt. Wylie at the Green Line when he was killed.

6. Only two Officers of the 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion are listed on the Vimy Memorial as casualties at the Battle of Hill 70 in August 1918. These are identified as Lieutenant Donald Wallace McDonald and Lieutenant James Archibald Wylie (Attachment #6). The only other missing Officer of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade was Lieutenant Francis Henry Hemsley of the 16<sup>th</sup> Battalion. His records show that he was killed 7,000 yards west of where Lt. Wylie was killed. His remains are in the vicinity of 36c.L.23 near les Brebis. If he had been in the forward lines and taken back, he would not have progressed past 36c.H.32.a.1.1, at Hurray Alley south of Bois Base. This would put Lt. Hemsley, at the closest possible location, well south of Lt. Wylie, separated by the woods at Bois Base.

To ensure that all Officers missing in this sector were accounted for in this case; we checked the war diaries and casualty records for the period extending to 18 October 1917 when the Canadians took over for the ANZAC troops near Passchendaele, Belgium. For this section, we have not included the specific pages of the documents; however we have provided links to those reports.

The Canadian units that were not in the immediate area of Bois Hugo in August and September 1917 were excluded from the evaluation, such as the 4<sup>th</sup> Division in operation south of Lens.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade (1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> *Battalions*) relieved the 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade on 18 August 1917 ([WD Link](#)). Their location is shown on the map contained in the war diary for that period ([WD Link](#)), which is a comparable area. Both the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalions took up those positions during the days that followed ([WD Link](#)). There are no Officers from the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade recorded on the Vimy Memorial during that extended period.

The 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade (*Canadian Mounted Rifle Battalions*) relieved the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade in the area on 20 August 1917 (WD [Link1](#), [Link2](#)). The only unknown Officer casualty in CMR in that period is Lt. Albert Edward Smith of the 1<sup>st</sup> CMR, who was out of the area of the recovered remains at 44a.31.c.15.10 ([E-13 WGR Link](#)).

The only other unit of the Canadian Expeditionary Force that was present in that area, for only a short period, was the 42<sup>nd</sup> Battalion of the 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade. No Officers are unaccounted for in the 42<sup>nd</sup> Battalion for the period.

7. Both Lt James Archibald Wylie and Lt Donald Wallace McDonald arrived at the 15th Battalion just prior to Hill 70 in July 1917. The former in No. 3 Company and the latter in No. 4 Company during the Battle of Hill 70. This is depicted in the documents showing the arrival of Lieutenant Wylie (Attachment #7).
8. The disposition of Lieutenants Wylie and McDonald at Hill 70 are recorded in the account of Hill 70 operations written by Lieutenant Colonel C. E. Bent Commanding Officer, 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion (Attachment #8). Lieutenant Wylie is in No. 3 Coy and Lieutenant McDonald is in No. 4 Coy. These are in agreement with the extracts reported previously for the 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion war diary and report of operations.
9. Official confirmation of the status of Lieutenant Wylie following Hill 70 is reported in *15<sup>th</sup> Battalion Part II Daily Order No. 99, 4 September 1917*. The Regimental History reports that Lieutenant Wylie was killed 16 August 1917 at the Green Line which was the farthest extent of the Battalion's advance (Attachment #9).

After having taken their objectives, the most desperate part of the operation now involved holding the Green Line with their greatly reduced numbers (including a noted shortage of stretcher bearers to remove the dead and wounded) in the face of a multiple German counterattacks:

*"it was impossible to carry many dead to the rear. Most of the gallant dead were buried where they fell near the new front line."*

We now have Lt. Wylie killed in action at the Green Line with reports that the remains of those killed were unlikely to be collected at that time and moved to the rear areas, or buried in marked graves at the front. It is therefore logical that this is where the remains of Lt. Wylie would eventually be recovered.

10. It is necessary to provide absolute confirmation that Lt. McDonald was killed at the Blue Line (*thus in St. Mary's ADS Cemetery*) and Lt. Wylie was killed at the Green Line (*thus in Loos British Cemetery*). The Regimental History reports, thus confirms, that Lieutenant McDonald was wounded at the Blue Line, placed in a shell hole but that the shell hole was subsequently "*blasted*" by artillery. Official confirmation of Lieutenant McDonald being reported MIA presumed KIA is recorded in *15<sup>th</sup> Battalion Part II Daily Order No. 107, 7 September 1917* (Attachment 10).

11. The "*Graves Registration Report Form*" (GRRF) accessed from the CWGC web site shows that the remains of an Unknown Canadian Officer are buried in Plot 6 Row H Grave 2 at the Loos British Cemetery (Attachment #11).

Unlike the case of Lt. Donald Wallace McDonald ([report link](#)), the Loos GRRF did not specify that the Officer was a member of the 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion, the unit that was predominant in the battle to take the Bois Hugo sectors of **441.H.25** and **44a.H.26**. For that reason, all Officers killed in the area had to be accounted for, as previously reported in Section 6 of this report. In completing that step, we can confirm that the Canadian Officer remains buried in the Loos British Cemetery are those of an Officer of the 15<sup>th</sup> Canadian Infantry Battalion. There are no other missing Officers in that sector, at any time. In similar examinations of Unknown British Officers in the Loos British Cemetery ([Lt. Wylie and 2nd Lt. Kipling: Loos British Cemetery?](#)), it was a different situation, as the British fought in this sector in September 1915 and again in August 1917. For the Canadians, we could limit the action to the period of August and September 1917 without consideration of other dates or battles.

12. Additional details are provided in the "*Concentration of Graves (Exhumations and Reburials), Burial Return*" report (COG-BR). This document shows that the body exhumed was identified as an Unknown Canadian Officer who was located at trench map coordinates **44a.H.26.c.10.9** (Attachment #12).

For clarity, trench map 44a (*as it is to the left of French map 44*) is also referenced as map 36c (*as it is below French Map 36*). The reported trench map coordinates are not technically correct, as they should always be reported with either 1 or 2 numbers, such as coordinates 44a.H.26.c.10.90 or 44a.H.26.c.1.9. This is as correctly shown on the previous COG-BR page for Pte. Schaffner #469737 ([COG-BR Link](#)). The 18<sup>th</sup> Labour Coy who undertook these exhumations are known to the CWGC for these errors in reporting.

13. We have provided The “*Special Exhumation Report*” for the Unknown Canadian Officer, as it shows that the remains were not exhumed until 29 February 1921, some 42 months after the death of Lt. Wylie (Attachment #13). There was evidence that the Officer had been shot in the head, had very good teeth was approximately 6 feet tall, but that the body was in an advance state of decay. There was a cross at the site that did state that it was an Unknown Canadian Officer. Although it is not a critical point in the examination of this case to demonstrate that the remains are those of Lt. Wylie, it does demonstrate that this was not a case of an Officer being killed in action by artillery fire, thus rendering the body unrecognizable.

At the time that Lt. Wylie was killed during the assault on The Green Line by No. 3 Company- the left forward of the battalion's two assaulting/first wave units, the regimental history notes that the company faced heavy machine gun and rifle fire as they closed on the Green Line. The 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion researchers are of the opinion that much of that machine gun and rifle fire was coming as enfilade fire from German front line positions still occupied to left of the 15th Battalion across the Canadian-British boundary positions. The Company Commander and another Platoon Commander are said to have been "shot" there and Wylie is said to have been "killed". Inference is that the casualties were coming from small arms and MG fire (read bullets) vice artillery. Heavy artillery fire in the area was not reported until after relief of the 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion, after which there are no unclaimed Officer remains.

14. All of the evidence for this investigation comes together on the extract of the trench map for 36c, sectors H25 and H26. This is a modified version of a similar trench map extract used in the report on [Lt. Donald Wallace McDonald](#), where the reporting errors of the 18<sup>th</sup> Labour Company were first identified (Attachment #14). We have marked a number of important locations. From the top to bottom of the extract, these are identified as:

- a. The point at 32C H25 b8.9 where the COC-BR states that the body of Private Brant of the 14<sup>th</sup> Battalion (sic should read 15<sup>th</sup> Bn.) was exhumed (B1) and buried in St. Mary's ADS Cemetery.
- b. The stated site of the exhumation of the 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion Lieutenant at **32c.H.25 b.6.8** (M1), also exhumed and buried in St. Mary's ADS Cemetery.
- c. The real exhumation location of the 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion Lieutenant at **32.H.25.d.6.8** (M2), who we have identified as Lieutenant Donald Wallace McDonald, buried in Plot 14 Row C Grave 11 at the St. Mary's ADS Cemetery.
- d. The “*Blue Line*” or first objective on the morning of Thursday August 15, 1916 where [Lieutenant McDonald](#) of the 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion was mortally wounded and encapsulated in a shell crater (blue lines).

- e. The “*Green Line*” or second objective where Lieutenant Wylie of the 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion was killed in action later the same day (green lines). The incorrect location for **36c.H.26.10.9** (W1) is marked to demonstrate that was in enemy held area at that time, thus confirming the grid map reporting error. The correct area for the remains is **36c.H.26.c.1.0** (or alternatively written as **36c.H.26.10.90** – both are correct) is also marked (W2).

The remains of Lt. James Archibald Wylie were exhumed at a different time than those of Lt. McDonald, however coincidentally by the same 18<sup>th</sup> Labour Company. A number of their grid marking errors have been reported in other cases handled by the 18<sup>th</sup> Labour Company, including cases from the British Battle of Loos in September 1915. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission is aware of these errors and corrections have been made.

The trench map extract shows very clearly that the remains located at the grid map reference of **36c.H.26.c.1.9** are precisely where the No. 3 Coy of the 15<sup>th</sup> Canadian Infantry Battalion was located at the time that Lt. Wylie was killed in action. As there are no Officers other than Lt. McDonald and Lt. Wylie missing in the 36c.H26 sector, or anywhere in the area of Bois Hugo, we can conclude that these are the remains of Lt. Wylie.

15. Previous research on the case of Lt. Donald Wallace McDonald concluded that his remains were located in Sector **36c.H.26.d.6.8**, where he was killed at the Blue Line. Lt. James Archibald Wylie was killed later in that day after he had moved forward to the Green Line. Conditions made it necessary to leave the bodies where they fell. In support of this, we have provided an extract of the text from the battalion history that comments on these difficulties, along with an aerial photograph that depicts how the Green Line appeared on 15 August 1917 when Lt. Wylie was killed (Attachment #15). The intense action and difficult terrain greatly inhibited the ability to recover the bodies during the battle and most likely afterwards as well. The image has been marked to show the Green Line and the Strong Points referenced in this report.

Although not known at the time of the preparation of the report on Lt. McDonald, the finding of the remains of the Unknown Canadian Officer at **36c.H.26.1.9** provides final confirmation as to the remains of both Lts. McDonald and Wylie. There are no other unknown Canadian Officers missing in this sector at any time from the Battle of Hill 70 in August 1917 until the time the Canadian Expeditionary Force moved to Belgium in October 1918.

In related research for the remains of two British 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenants of the Irish Guards (Kipling and Law), we have reported on the unknown officers in all of the area cemeteries. 2<sup>nd</sup> Lts. Kipling and Law of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion Irish Guards were identified as a result of research pertaining to the Canadian Lts. McDonald and Wylie. The grid reference errors of the 18<sup>th</sup> Labour Company were critical to all four (4) of these examinations.

The confirmation of the errors were made possible through the correct and incorrect reports on Private Thomas McPherson #633732 of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Canadian Battalion, lost in the same grid location on August 8, 1917. As reported earlier, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion was in relief of the 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion. Pte. McPherson's remains were exhumed (and identified) at **36c.H.25.c.45.13**, as reported to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission on October 25, 2015 ([Error Report to CWGC](#)).

16. The burial of the remains of the members of the 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion "*where they fell*" is an important component of both the Lt. McDonald and Lt. Wylie case reports (Attachment #16). The recorded burial locations, at various points in H25-d and H26-c made by the unit, closely follow the line of advance of the battalion from Bn HQ in Heath Trench, to Chalk Pit Wood, to Puit 14 and into Bois Hugo past first the Blue Line and then the Green Line. The men were burying dead basically where they fell during the advance and at locations where they stopped to secure objectives and hold objectives like the Blue Line and Green Line.

Even for those dead who do not have burial locations with specific map references on their cards, there are frequent comments such as: "*in the enemy wire; at the Blue Line; at front line; in front of position; front line objective; No Man's Land; 50 yards short of Blue Line*". This leaves no doubt that the men were buried or lost in H25-d and on into H26-c at locations "*where they fell*".

17. The headstone in the Loos British Cemetery, in Plot 6 Row H Grave 2 currently states that it marks the grave of "*A Canadian Officer of the Great War Known Unto God*" (Attachment #17). It is our firm belief that this marker should be changed to read "*Lieutenant James Wylie 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion Canadians 15 August 1917*". For future reference and commemoration, we note that the [CWGC records](#) incorrectly report Lt. Wylie was killed on Friday August 16, 1916. This is understandable, as that is what is recorded on the E-13 War Graves Register. Our analysis of the records, undertaken as part of this investigation, provides clear evidence that Lt. Wylie was killed on 15 August, 1917.

#### **Action Required:**

The "Investigative Report" has been prepared in accordance with the procedures and criteria set out by the CWGC, should they wish to make any changes to the commemoration details (Attachment #17).

The evidence reported in the case of Lt. Wylie, as supported by earlier research on the case of Lt. McDonald; provide conclusive proof that only two Canadian Officers are known to have been lost in the H25 and H26 sectors of Bois Hugo. This is not restrictive to the period of the battle in August 1917 but pertains to all times and actions during the Great War of 1914-1921. The final confirmation of both events is confirmed by the agreement of the records that Lt. McDonald was lost at the Blue Line (H25-d) and Lt. Wylie was lost at the Green Line (H26-c), both on 15 August 1917.

# ATTACHMENT #1

FORM 833  
9755 - 1031 - 4-6-17.

332-91-44. 5753  
E-12

NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ RANK Lieut NAME WYLIE J.A. 52357

UNIT 15th Bn NEXT-OF-KIN \_\_\_\_\_

FILE NO. R.L. 9. W. 797

332-91-44

DATE OF DEATH	CAUSE AND PLACE OF DEATH	CAS. SHEET NO.
16-8-17	Killed in Action	756 Sht.1.

DATE OF BURIAL	PLACE OF BURIAL	DESCRIPTION OF GRAVE
	Grave not located up to 21-11-21.	Aut. 332-91-44.
	Killed in Action near Loos, (Lens)	"
	Not registered as at 19-11-21	"

VIMY  
MEMORIAL



**JAMES ARCHIBALD WYLIE**  
LIEUTENANT, 15th Battalion, C.E.F.

Was born in Almonte, Ontario, in 1894. After completing his education in his native town, he entered the service of the Bank of Montreal. He enlisted in Edmonton in 1915 and was given his commission as Lieutenant in the 92nd Canadian Highlanders. Before going overseas with a reinforcement draft in September, 1916, he served as Orderly Officer to the General of his Brigade and as Assistant Provost-Marshal in Toronto and at Camp Borden. In England he was posted to the 173rd Battalion, but in July, 1917, at his own request, he went to France with a draft for the 15th Battalion, 48th Highlanders of Canada. During the attack at Hill 70 on the morning of August 15th, 1917, he was instantly killed by enemy fire while successfully bombing a party of the enemy from a shell-hole in front of his position after he had led his platoon to their final objective.

## ATTACHMENT #2

### War Diary Narrative for August 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>:

- <http://data2.collectionscanada.ca/e/e044/e001092583.jpg>
- <http://data2.collectionscanada.ca/e/e044/e001092584.jpg>
- <http://data2.collectionscanada.ca/e/e044/e001092585.jpg>

Extract of last page for August 16, 1917: (images are hyperlinked)

16

AUG. 16<sup>TH</sup>      SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS (Continued)      Page 3.

4.30 A.M. S.O.S. reported by O.P. by lamp from our F.O.O. Discovered to be a mistake immediately.

8.30-11 " Enemy Patrols observed by BORIS O.P. moving back with full equipment on. Our artillery ordered to fire on them. Many Stretcher Parties observed also. Enemy's casualties must have been heavy.

1.10 P.M. Enemy seems to be massing in BOIS HUGO. Artillery asked to open up on them, which they did.

4.00 " Heavy bombardment on our right and it is spreading to our front.

4.02 " S.O.S. called for.

4.10 " S.O.S. cancelled.

4.18 " Our old Front Line and present front Line being shelled heavily

4.30 " BORIS O.P. reports situation quieting down.

5.30 " All quiet.

8.00 " Enemy shelling our old Front Line on the Left.

8.45 " Artillery activity increasing on our right.

9.05 " Situation quiet and artillery ordered to slacken.

11.30 " Hqs. Relieving Battalion, (2nd. Canadian) reports.

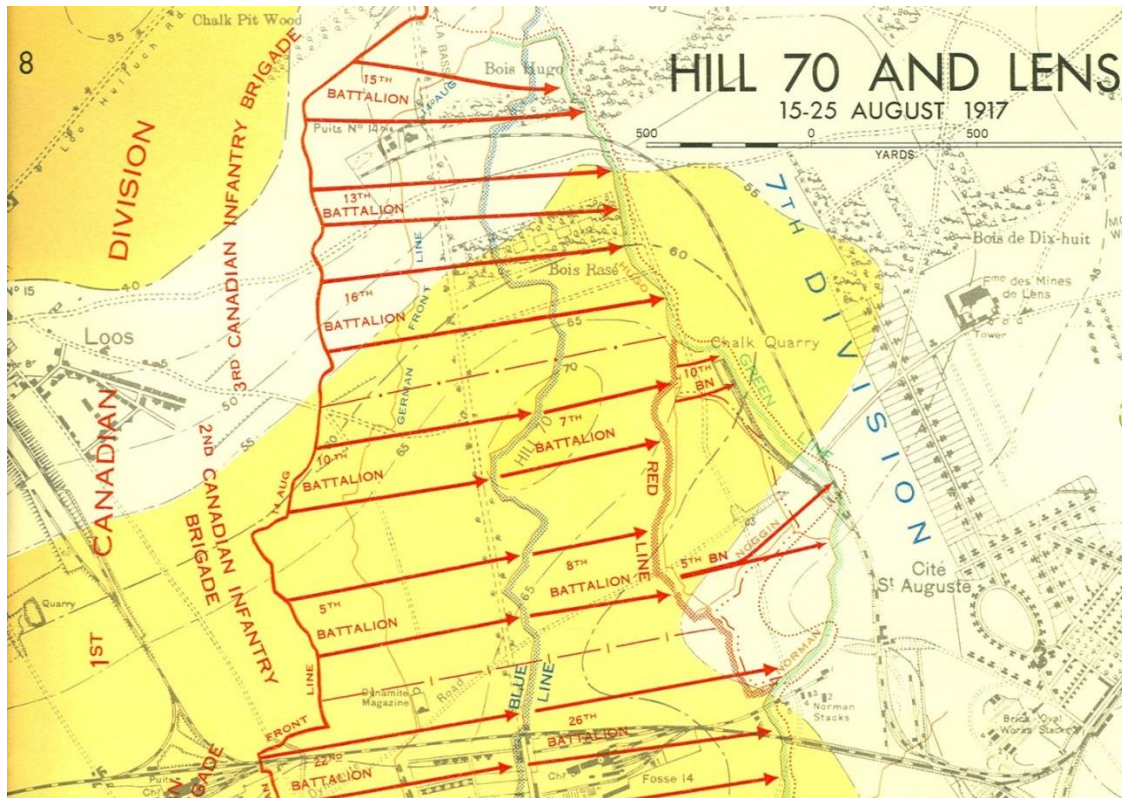
12.05 A.M. Enemy opens up a light barrage and our artillery was asked to do the same.

12.08 " Artillery asked to cease firing.

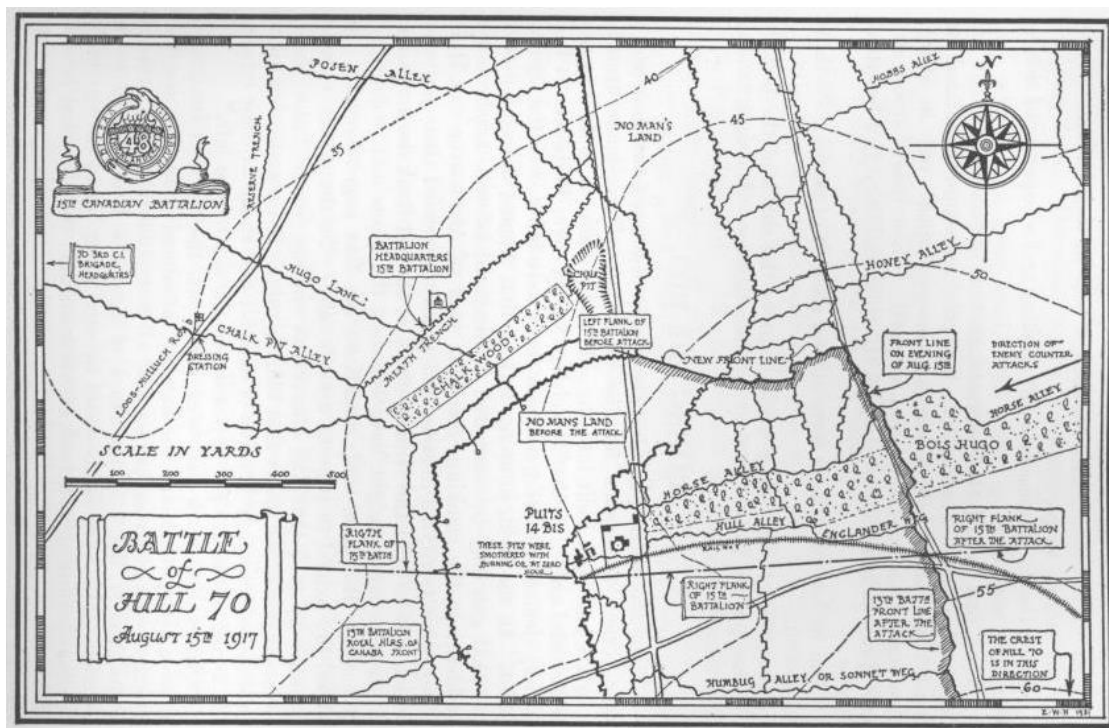
6.30 " Relief by 2nd. Battalion complete.

# ATTACHMENT #3

## Extract of Nicholson Map 8



Hill 70 Page 243



# ATTACHMENT #4 (a)

SECRET.

OPERATION ORDER NO. 151

BY

LIEUT. COLONEL GAULT McCOMBE, D.S.O.,  
COMMANDING, 16TH CANADIAN BATTALION,  
ROYAL MONTREAL REGIMENT.

*Copy No. 13.*

*Approved  
C. Gault  
20*

In-the-Field, July 24th, 1917.

1. In conjunction with other operations, the CANADIAN CORPS will take the high ground north of LEES, on a date and at an hour to be notified later, in order to endeavour to force the enemy to evacuate LEES.  
The 1ST CANADIAN DIVISION will attack with two Brigades abreast, the 2ND BRIGADE on the right, the 3RD BRIGADE on the left, and the 1ST BRIGADE in reserve.  
The 2ND CANADIAN DIVISION will attack on the right of the 1ST CANADIAN DIVISION.  
The 46TH BRITISH DIVISION will be on the left of the 1ST CANADIAN DIVISION, and the 136TH BRITISH BRIGADE on the left of the 3RD BRIGADE attack.  
As far as present knowledge shows, the 46TH DIVISION will take no part in the operations.
2. The objectives of the 3RD BRIGADE will be,-  
  - 1st. THE BLUE LINE. from H.25.d.88.70.- 25.d.90.65.  

25.d.85.90.0 31.b.80.30.  
38.a.1.2.- 32.e.05.65.
  - 2nd. THE GREEN LINE. from H.25.d.95.65 - 25.e.15.70,  

thence a line s.e. along the  
road 32.a.6.6. to 32.a.85.77. (the  
junction with 2ND BRIGADE.)
3. The 3RD BRIGADE will attack with three Battalions,-  
 16TH BATTALION, CANADIAN SCOTTISH, on right, -  
 15TH BATTALION, ROYAL HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA, - in centre,-  
 15TH BATTALION, 46TH HIGHLANDERS OF CANADA, on left,-  
 14TH BATTALION, ROYAL MONTREAL REGIMENT, will be in  
 Brigade Reserve.  
 Each of the three attacking Battalions will attack on  
 a two Company frontage, and each Company will attack on a  
 two Platoon frontage.
4. The table of frontages will be,-  

Brigade,-	1400 yards approximately.
Battalion,-	466 " "
Company,-	233 " "
Platoon,-	116 " "
5. Boundaries will be as follows,-  

16TH BATTALION,-	right boundary between 3RD and 2ND BRIGADES.
	British Front Line,- H. 31.e.67.50.
	German Front Line,- H.31.d.10.55.
	Blue Line,- H.32.e.10.77.
	Green Line,- H.32.e.9.9.
Between 16TH and 15TH BATTALIONS,-	British Front Line - H.31.e.65.30 (Boyan 47.) German Front Line,- H.31.b.80.25 Blue Line,- H.31.b.75.27 Green Line,- H.32.a.60.85

## ATTACHMENT #4 (b)

### 3. Notes on Operations of August 15th - 16th. 1917. continued.

11

#### THE ATTACK Contd.

Our H.G.'s and T.M.'s, except one, all came through safely to the GREEN LINE. We also captured a revolver cannon or medium Trench Mortar. It was mounted on a heavy base and was made so that it could be swung around and fire in any direction. There were about 500 rounds beside it, but none of our officers or men knew how to operate it. One of the Hun prisoners volunteered to show the way, and he placed a round in, pointed the gun towards the east end of BOIS HUGO and fired the gun himself, the shell landing amongst the enemy who were in trenches there. The T.M. Battery then took over and fired the remaining rounds. At about 8.30 a.m. the enemy shelling on our new front line increased considerably and this continued.

#### THE DEFENCE OF THE POSITION.

At 10.30 a.m. the O.P.'s reported enemy reinforcements were coming up, and it was evident that the Hun was going to make a strong counter attack. For the next hour, enemy troops were observed advancing in masses and extended order all across his back areas. Our artillery did very fine work shelling these troops, and breaking them up in many cases. This continued until 12.45 p.m. when an assault was launched against our left flank. The enemy assembled in his trenches and support lines, and then advanced in four lines. He was mowed down by our artillery and machine gun barrages, and those Huns that actually got into our Trenches, were immediately bombed out. The enemy's losses must have been tremendous, because very few of his men escaped our destructive and annihilating fire. A second assault was attempted about 1.15 p.m. This attack was not even as successful as the last one, as his men did not even reach our trenches, but were shot down as they advanced. Our men were all in the best of spirits, as it was evident that the enemy had very little chance of success. Our barrage was perfect, and came down almost immediately it was called for.

During these attacks, a party of 12 of the enemy made their way up MEATH Trench and reached our Battalion Headquarters. All signallers, runners, and batmen immediately attacked the party with bombs, and chased them back to their own lines. This party of Huns had evidently entered our lines on the front of the Battalion on our left, which had been ordered to withdraw, in order not to come under our barrage. At 2 p.m. it was evident that enemy attacks had failed, and we were holding all our ground. Our artillery gradually slackened down and by 3 p.m. the situation was normal. The enemy directed his shelling at this time chiefly against CHALK PIT ALLEY and MEATH TRENCH.

Four Officer reinforcements arrived from the Transport, and were sent to the different Companies. Lieut. Haldane, commanding No. 3 Coy was killed by a German bomb.

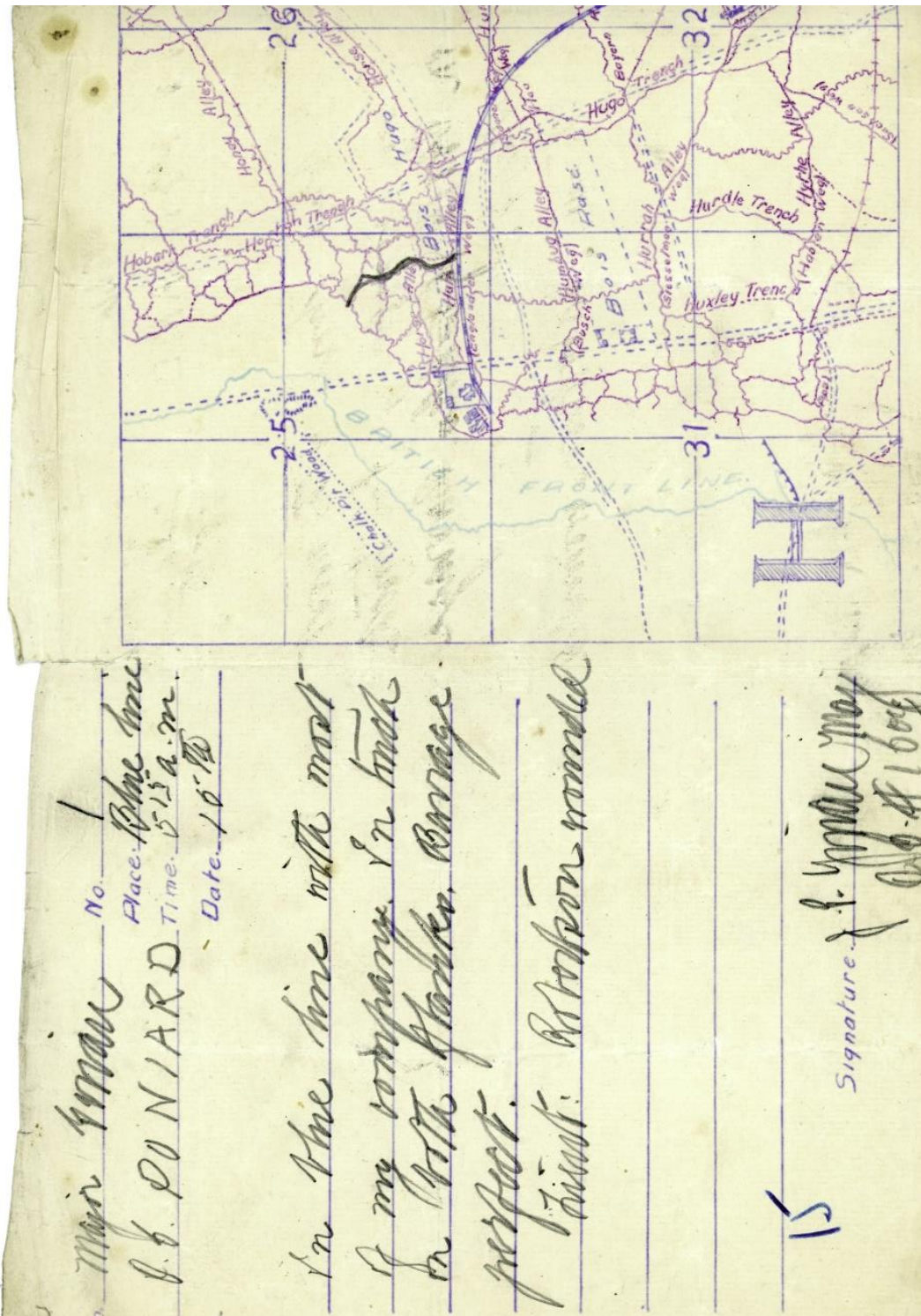
At 4 p.m. the enemy attempted to rush up his C.T.'s and bomb out our front line on the left flank. Our men were all ready for them, and gave them a warm reception. One officer stood up on the parapet and did some fine bombthrowing towards the C.T.'s, killing many of the enemy as they came up the trench. The situation soon quieted down.

One Coy. of the 14th. Battalion came up then and took up a position in the BLUE LINE. At 5.25 p.m. the enemy again started to come over all the way across our front. Our S.O.S. flare was sent up and the barrage came down immediately. The attack was easily repulsed and the situation became quieter. The enemy continued shelling our area until 6.30 p.m. when his artillery quieted down.

# ATTACHMENT #4 (c)

WAR DIARY OF THE 2ND CANADIAN INFANTRY BATTALION, Army Form C. 2118. EAST-ONTARIO REGIMENT.		INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY. FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST, 1917. (Ence heading not required.)		Summary of Events and Information		Remarks and references to Appendix	
Place	Date	Time					
TRENCHES.	16/8/17	Contd.	From H.25, a.9.6. to H.31-b. H.2. During the relief at 1.00 p.m., 4 S.O.S. barrage was laid down by our artillery on the front to our left. 1st Cavalry Battery left 1st Cavalry Brigade (1st Cavalry) on our right and bounding eight of our men. On our left were the 1st Cavalry Brigade (1st Cavalry) on our right the 4th Canadian Infantry Battalion. The Battalion was 614 strong. Weather: Fine.				
do.	17/8/17.		At 1.30 a.m., the S.O.S. barrage started and the situation was normal. At 6.40 a.m. relief was complete. At 1.00 p.m. No. 4 Company moved from support into the left front line section from H.25, a.1.65.70 to H.26, c.20.55 and No. 3 closed their left to H.26, c.20.55 and occupied S.P. 6 & 7. No. 4 Company occupied S.P. 8 & 9. At 11.30 p.m. an intense barrage was laid down by artillery to our right and there was considerable retaliation by the enemy on our front. Three wounded prisoners were brought in during the day - 2 were found in dugouts and one in "No Man's Land". Weather: Fine.				
do.	18/8/17.		At 12.30 a.m. barrage ceased and situation was normal until 1.45 a.m. when a barrage was laid down on our front, stopping at 2.30 a.m. At 5.30 a.m. the enemy attempted a raid with flamethrowers and bombs and succeeded in penetrating into our trench on the left sector (No. 4 Company), but was promptly driven out by a bombing party led by 1st Lt. Edwards and Sgt. Lapointe. One prisoner with a flamethrower was taken by this party and 5 German dead were left in our trench. At 7.30 a.m. S.O.S. lights were sent up and S.O.S. signals and messages sent by visual and numbers. Artillery opened up at 8.20 a.m. and appeared the enemy who were massing in H.26, c. Central. The rest of the day was rather quiet. Aircraft were very active especially in the morning when enemy planes flying low, fired into our trenches. Majors Leeson and Stence were both wounded in the morning. Lieutenant P.L. With was also wounded. Parties of the 2nd Canadian Battalion began to arrive to relieve the 2nd Canadian Battalion and completed by 1.15 a.m. and the Battalion moved into support area in our old front line and old German front line and support trenches. Our casualties for the tour were 3 Officers wounded of whom two (Majors Leeson and Stence) died of wounds and 22 O.R. killed and 102 wounded. S.O.S. barrage was laid down on the Division front from 3.00 to 4.00 a.m. During the day artillery was quiet but aircraft on both sides were quite active. From 6.00 to 9.00 p.m. artillery was very active, the situation was very quiet after 9.00 p.m. <i>Heather G. McIntyre</i> 21st Wt. Wash/145 100000 515 D.N.L. A.D.S. Form C. 2118.				
do.	19/8/17.						

**ATTACHMENT #5 (a)**







## ATTACHMENT # 5 (d)

(6)

At the same time, a report came over the wire from the F.O.O. that final objective had been reached, and that men were digging in. (The actual time for this was 5.30. The boys were one jump ahead of the squirrel) Now we had all we'd set out to get, it remained to hang on to it.

From this time on, frequent and fuller reports came in. General report, such as we had received, was satisfactory, but not half so much so as a particular one from each Company Commander as to the exact situation and condition. At 5.30 a.m., we heard from No.4 Company. Major Sheppard reported he was O.K. on the BLUE LINE. Later reports from this same officer within the next few hours, showed that his strength was 57 O.R. in the three platoons with him, and a message from Lieut. Tait received at 6.15 a.m. that he had 19 O.R. brought the Company strength up to 76 O.R. and 2 Officers. One report from this Officer brought tears of pity to many eyes in Headquarters - only five Hun prisoners seen. Such fearful barbarity in our men, such a shameful use to make of the instruction in bayonet fighting. (As a matter of fact we got six wounded who were most kindly treated by our M.O., being required by him to make only fifteen trips from the battlefield to Aid post bearing wounded - our wounded) By 7.15 we knew that No.4 Company had its Headquarters at a given map location, men well dug in, Brigade H.Gun placed and as air as they were concerned everything "jake". Lieut. McDonald of this Company was killed in the attack. Lieut. Chisholm was wounded. Both were comparatively new officers with the Battalion, but fine soldiers and fellows.

At 6.15 a.m. we received a mess. gw from Major Girvan. He was consolidating the BLUE LINE. Casualties had been light and he was in touch with both flanks. Our barrage perfect. Lieut. Robertson and Donald had been wounded. The former "out since Mons" was, as the nickname implies, an old-timer, and had won his commission through good service with the Battalion as a N.C.O. and had recently returned after recovering from a blighty. Donald like McDonald and Chisholm of No.4, had joined only a short time before and this was their first show. The spirit was willing but Fritz, with that annoying habit of his, had put a crimp in it. A late report from Major Girvan received at 6.58 a.m. showed that he was at the time of the message (6.15) consolidating strong points on his front, blocks established, in short, everything lovely. The first discouraging message of the day so far, was included in No.1's - No.3 Company was in bad shape.

No.2 Company it will be recalled, were the moppers up, and were to do other special work. We heard in good time that this had been done. At 6.58 a.m. word was received through No.4 Coy that Lieut. Samuel had his strong point established with the strength of fourteen, and that the Puits had been successfully mopped up. Later incorporated in Coy reports we learned that the other S.P.'s allotted to this Company had been made and sufficient men were left to hold them effectively. Lieut. Graham was wounded. He doesn't have much fun. Last fall he joined the Battalion only to get hit as he went up the line for the first time, and this second blighty came only a short time after he had rejoined. I have already written of Lieut. Reeves and his wiring platoon. It was just 8.30 a.m. when Cpl with the majority of his party reported back to Headquarters having finished the job as far as the wire available permitted.

The position of No.3 Company occasioned some uneasiness. As air stated they had the toughest bit of work to do. Before we heard definitely from Major Girvan there was reason to feel that things were not so satisfactory as they might be. From verbal reports of runners and wounded, it was known that only one officer Lieut. Cowan was left, and it was his first show. A most unenviable position for him to be in. Major Mavor had been wounded early in the fight

## ATTACHMENT # 5 (e)

7.

Lieut. McGee, an officer of varied parts, who had been Bombing Officer and Assistant Adjutant, as well as Platoon-Commander during a considerable period of service with the Battalion were hit almost at the commencement.

Lieut. Wylie a newcomer and a good one had been killed. About 6.30, Lieut. Haldane went up to take over the Company. Later we heard from this Officer that the casualties had not been heavy, that the position laid down was occupied and strong points established. Complete consolidation was impossible, the men on the captured front were too few to dig a complete trench line. They were dug in, in groups however in a way quite effective as a complete trench, as far as repelling a counter attack and this was the main thing. The digging of a trench across No Man's Land was not practical at the time owing to the enemy shell and H.G. fire. It had been anticipated, to be left till after nightfall, but of course its absence meant that No. 3 Company's flank was up in the air. Shortly after Lieut. Haldane took over a Company, Capt. McLaughlin who had been Liaison Officer with the 13th. Battalion, joined him. This Officer was wounded about 11 a.m. "Hughie" was another good one, and during his service of over a year with the Battalion, had proved himself an officer whose loss would be greatly felt. With Major Mavor, C.O. and Capt. McLaughlin, 2nd. in Command, No. 3 Company was second to none in the Battalion.

While the above covers the matters of most vital importance, in the first phase of the show, various matters of importance occurred at Headquarters during this time. For one thing we had breakfast comfortably, nicely served by Alexander and cooked by the same competent person. For another at least, the runners would say the officers weren't too bad, even if they were dugouts, they got enough rum to make this condescension. When we heard finally and conclusively at 5.50 a.m. that the final objective had been reached. We sent word to this effect to Brigade and they sent back congratulations at 8.10 a.m. A little later Division sent us a similar message all to ourselves. (both messages are carefully retained in the Battalion archives). And there was more serious work than this. At 8.45 a.m. knowing then definitely that one officer had been killed and four wounded, we reported this to Brigade and asked them to send up five officers from our Transport as soon as possible to take their places and also Capt. Haldenby Adjutant, to take over the duties of Lieut. Haldane. At 5.57 a.m. Capt. McKenzie the M.O. ("Equinox") was reported wounded. We asked Brigade for an officer to take his place if necessary. At 7.55 a.m. learning the Doc's injury was more than the scratch he reported, we asked Brigade to send the relief officer. About 12 noon, we received a silly bugger note from our said Doc that his relief had arrived, but having no orders to go out, he was carrying on. This note owing to unavoidable circumstances was overlooked and it was not until 1.30 a.m. when he actually left. The Doc may not be a man of discretion but he has the right spirit.

At 5.57 a.m. we heard officially that the centre Battalion had reached its final objective with ease. At 6.30 a.m. that the centre Brigade had reached its final objective and at 6.35, that it was in touch with right and left. At 6.50 a.m. we heard officially from Brigade that all objectives on the whole divisional front had been gained. This was confirmation. The boys surely were working good. The same message told us that a Hun Officer prisoner had stated the Boche intended a counter attack at once. But who cared? Not the Boys - they hadn't killed enough yet and had been greatly disappointed on the right to see some of the Huns beating it out of Lens, and they couldn't get them. At 6.55 a.m. we had a note from the Doc that up to that time, the casualties of our Battalion through his hands had been thirty eight. A remarkably low number but of course a lot had 'beat it right out' after getting first aid on the field, but there was nothing to worry about in them.

One thing caused considerable worry. There was no senior officer at Advanced Report Centre, and owing to the absence of a phone line, and other considerations, it was not practical to move H.Q. forward. It was most advisable to have an officer from H.Q. there and also have him go over the Battalion front to size up the general situation.

## ATTACHMENT #6

### Candidates:

1	<p>McDONALD DONALD WALLACE 15/08/1917 Lieutenant 15th Bn., 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade, 1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Division <a href="#">Reported St. Mary's ADS 14.C.11</a> <b>EXCLUDED:</b> Previously identified in St. Mary's ADS Cemetery</p>
2	<p>WYLIE JAMES ARCHIBALD 16/08/1917 Lieutenant 15th Bn. , 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade, 1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Division at the Green Line 36c.H.26.c.1.9 <b>INCLUDED:</b> The only Officer in the correct location that is on Vimy Memorial</p>
3	<p>HEMSLEY FRANCIS HENRY <a href="#">16/08/1917</a> Lieutenant 16th Bn. , 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Brigade, 1<sup>st</sup> Canadian Division 1 mile SE Mazingarbe, 4.5 miles north west of Lens area 36b.L.23 <b>EXCLUDED:</b> 7,000 yards east of where the remains were located</p>
4	<p>SMITH ALBERT EDWARD 22/08/1917 Lieutenant 1st CMR, 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade, 3<sup>rd</sup> Canadian Division 36c.H.31.c.15.10 south west of Bois Base <b>EXCLUDED:</b> 500 yards south of remains, separated by Bois Base</p>

# ATTACHMENT #7

Page 237 Regimental History of the 48<sup>th</sup> Highlanders of Canada stating arrival of Lt Wylie

old company. Capt. A. Turnbull went to the First Army School. Capt. H. Price now took command of No. 2 Company with Capt. D. M. Grant as second, and Lt. T. M. Cowan and Lt. J. A. Wylie, new officers, were posted to Nos. 3 and 4 Companies respectively. This spell of working parties cost 7 men wounded and Ptes. A. E. Robertson and G. Jordan killed.

Battalion Part II Daily Orders No.74 dated 27-6-1917 reporting arrival of Lt Wylie

commenced with the first issue in each year.

Unit 15th Canadian Battalion.

**DAILY ORDERS. PART II.**

N.B.—The Sub. No. of Order and Subject are to be shown in Columns 1 and 2 thus:—1—Courts-Martial.

Station In the Field. No 74.

Date 27-6-17.

Regimental No., Rank, and Name.	Sqdn., Batty., or Co.	Particulars of Casualties, etc., and Date.
<b>OFFICERS.</b>		
Lt-Col. Bent C.E.	D.S.O.	Assumed command of 3rd. Canadian Infantry Brigade during absence of Brig-Gen G.S. Tuxford C.B. C.M.G. (On Leave ) from 13-6-17. (Auth. 3rd. Can. Inf. Bde. A.F. B.213 dated 16-6-17.)
Lieut. K.B. McLaren	} Officer	Having arrived from England as reinforcements are taken on strength of 15th Canadian Battalion accordingly. 24-6-17. (Auth. W.O. Letter 121/Dfts./6660 (A.G. 4 a ) dated 16-6-17.) Can. Sect. 3rd. Echelon. File K.R. 13380. Can. Base Depot Nom. Roll dated 24-6-17.)
Lieut. T.M. Cowan		
Lieut. J.A. Wylie		
Capt. J.S. Laycock (Killed in Action)	✓	Reference Part II Orders No 70 dated 14-6-17 (S.O. "Officers" ) the correct date of death of the marginally noted Officer should read <u>10-6-17</u> . (Auth. O.C. 15th Canadian Battalion letter dated 12-6-17. Can. Sect. 3rd. Echelon. File K.I. 10461. and 15th Can. Battalion A.F. B.213 dated 16-6-17.)

*At End B-28/6*

*W.D. McPherson*  
Lieut.  
for Lt-Col. A.A.G.  
Can. Sect. 3rd. Echelon.

## ATTACHMENT #8

Extract from a account of Hill 70 written by LtCol CE Bent 15<sup>th</sup> Battalion indicating disposition of Lts McDonald (No. 4 Company) and Lt Wylie (No. 3 Company) at Hill 70.

The Battalion went into the Line Officered as follows:		
Headquarters -	Lieut.-Col. C.E.Bent	O. C.
	Capt. H.Price	Acting 2nd in Command
	Lieut. Haldane	Acting Adjutant
	Lieut. Winnifrith	Intelligent Officer
No.1 Company	Major Givin	O. C.
	Lieut. Chisholm	
	Lieut. Robertson	
	Lieut. Donald	
No.2 Company	Lieut. Samuels	O. C.
	Lieut. Reeves	
	Lieut. Andrews	
	Lieut. Graham	
No.3 Company	Major Mavor	O. C.
	Lieut. McGee	
	Lieut. Wylie	
	Lieut. Cowan	
No.4 Company	Major Sheppard	O. C.
	Lieut. Chisholm	
	Lieut. McDonald	
	Lieut. Tait.	

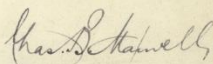
## ATTACHMENT #9

Extract from page 248 Regimental History of the 48<sup>th</sup> Highlanders of Canada describing death of Lt Wylie at the Green Line.

Meanwhile No. 3 Company were sprawling and floundering forward, ripping themselves loose from snarls of wire, bombing dugouts and unbroken bays, rushing the redoubts and pressing resolutely on to the Green Objective. But it was tough going. There was continuous rifle and a seething hail of Maxim-fire from the flank. The company dwindled. Its commander had stopped a bullet at the German front-line. Lt. J. A. Wylie had been killed there. Then Lt. McGee went down wounded. Soon their line was only isolated and all but leaderless squads, fighting grimly in the fitful half-light of morning. Lt. Thomas Cowan, in action for the first time, was the only officer left.

Battalion Part II Daily Orders 99 dated 21-8-1917 reporting Lt Wylie KIA

Unit 15th Can. Battalion.		No. ....
DAILY ORDERS. PART II.		Date. 21-8-17.
N.B.—The Sub. No. of Order and Subject are to be shown in Columns 1 and 2 thus:—1—Courts-Martial.		Station. In the Field.
Regimental No., Rank, and Name.	Sqdn., Batty., or Co.	Particulars of Casualties, etc., and Date.
<b>OFFICERS.</b>		
<b>STRUCK</b>		
<b>8. STRUCK OFF STRENGTH AND ESTABLISHMENT.</b>		
Lieut. S.J. Reeves M.C.	✓	Killed in Action. 16-8-17. 1578
Lieut. J.A. Wylie	✓	do. do. 1578 (Auth. 1st. Army Cas. List No. 1080 dated 17-8-17.)
Lieut. E.M. Haldane	✓	DIED OF WOUNDS RECEIVED IN ACTION. 18-8-17. (Auth. O.C. No. 2 Can. Field Amb. Tgm dated 18-8-17. Can. Sect. 3rd. Ech. No. T18300)
<b>9. CANCELLATIONS.</b>		
Lieut. J.H. Chipman	✓	Part II Orders No 90 dated 31-7-17 (S.O. "Officer reporting this Officer as relinquishing the Acting Rank of Capt. on 27-4-17 is hereby cancelled. (See also below) (Auth. List of Appts Comms. & Rewards No 147 dated 4-8-17.)
<b>10. RELINQUISHMENTS AND REVERSIONS.</b>		
Lieut. (A/Capt) J.H. Chipman	✓	Relinquishes the Acting Rank of Captain 10-3-17. (Auth. List of Appts Comms & Rewards No 147 dated 4-8-17.)
<b>11. APPOINTMENTS &amp; SECONDINGS.</b>		
Lieut. E.W. Haldenby	✓	To be Acting Captain vice A/Capt. J.H. Chipman (See above) 10-3-17. (Auth. List of Appts. Comms & Rewards No 147 dated 4-8-17.)

  
 Lieut.  
 for Lt-Col. A.A.G.  
 Canadian Section,  
 3rd. Echelon. G.H.Q.

# ATTACHMENT #10

Extract from page 255 Regimental History of the 48<sup>th</sup> Highlanders of Canada describing wounding of Lt McDonald at the Blue Line.

advance, as did Sgt. Bunch and 27 Sgt. S. W. Taylor, all of No. 1 Company. Lt. D. W. MacDonald, a new officer of No. 4 Company, was killed. He was seriously wounded at the Blue Line and placed in a shell-hole which was later blasted into a large crater. Lt. Wendell Graham, No. 2 Company, was wounded, as was Lt. Gordon Chisholm of No. 4 Company, and Lt. J. Robertson of No. 1 Company.

Battalion Part II Daily Orders 107 7-8-1917 reporting Lt McDonald MIA presumed KIA

Each issue of Orders will be numbered consecutively throughout the year. A fresh series will be commenced with the first issue in each year.

**Unit 15th Canadian Battalion.**  
**DAILY ORDERS. PART II.**

N.B.—The Subj. No. of Order and Subject are to be shown in Columns 1 and 2 thus:—1—Company. 2—Subject.

No. 107.  
7-8-17.

Regimental No., Rank, and Name.	Sigs., Blatts., or Co.	Particulars of Casualties, etc., and Date.
<b>OFFICERS.</b>		
<b>10. ATTACHMENTS.</b>		
Lt-Col. C.H. Bent	D.S.O.	Assumed command of 3rd. Canadian Infantry Bde. during absence of Brig-Gen. G.S. Tuxford C.B. CMG. (To command 1st. Can. Division) 24-8-17.  (Auth. 3rd. Can. Infantry Bde. A.F. B.213 dated 25-8-17.)
<b>11. HONOURS AND AWARDS.</b>		
Capt. A. Fraser (To England 21-4-17.)		
Lieut. (A/Capt) R.A. Brown		
Lieut. (A/Capt) H.O'Leary (Seconded 3rd. Can. Trench Mortar Battery)		Awarded the Military Cross for Conspicuous Gallantry and Devotion to duty.  (Auth. London Gazette No 30204 dated 26-7-17.)
Lieut. J. Kay		
Lieut. D.A. Macintosh (Seconded to 15th Can. Machine Gun Co.)		
<b>12. LEAVE OF ABSENCE.</b>		
Lieut. W.T. Ulens		Granted 10 days Leave to U.K. from 29-8-17.
Lieut. K.B. MacLaren		Granted Leave to England from 1-9-17 to 12-9-17.  (Auth. O.C. 15th Can. Battalion A.F. B.213 dated 1-9-17.)
<b>13. STRUCK OFF STRENGTH AND ESTABLISHMENT.</b>		
Lieut. D.W. McDonald		WOUNDED AND MISSING. (Believed Killed) 15-8-17. (Auth. O.C. 15th Can. Battalion A.F. B.213 dated 1-9-17.)
Lieut. J.M. Forgie (To England 5-5-17.)		Having been detached from 15th Can. Battalion for a period of more than four months is now reported as POSTED to 1st. Central Ontario Regtl. Depot Shorncliffe 5-9-17. (Auth. Hdqrs. Canadians Routine Order No 1962 dated 11-7-17.)

*Chas. B. Haywell*  
Lieut.  
for Lt-Col. A.A.G.  
Canadian Section,  
3rd. Echelon, G.H.Q.

CANADIAN SECTION  
107  
7-9-17  
G.H.Q. 3rd. ECHELON

# ATTACHMENT #11

J.C. COMPREHENSIVE REPORT. 10/12/20. Army Form W. 3372.

**GRAVES REGISTRATION REPORT FORM.**

No. 1. District. REPORT No. 108 SCHEDULE No. 38

COMMUNION:- LOOS.-EN-GHELLE  
PLACE OF BURIAL WOODS BRIT  
PROVINCIAL CEMETERY.

Map Reference 44a.M.6.a.7.3.

The following are buried here:- Information

Regiment	No.	Name PLOT 6. ROW "G". (Cont.)	Rank and Initials	Date of Death	Cross Erected or G. R. U'd.	Plot, Row and Grave Gr. No.
		UNKNOWN BRITISH SOLDIER.				7. ✓
		-do-				8. ✓
Canadians.		-do-				9. ✓
		-do-			ALL	10. ✓
		-do-				11. ✓
		-do-			CROSSES	12. ✓
Canadians.		-do-				13. ✓
-do-		-do-			ERECTED	14. ✓
-do-		-do-				15. ✓
-do-		-do-				16. ✓
-do-		-do-				17. ✓
-do-		-do-				18. ✓
-do-		-do-				19. ✓
-do-		-do-				20. ✓
Canadians.		PLOT 6. ROW "H".				
		UNKNOWN BRITISH SOLDIER.				1. ✓
-do-		-do-	OFFICER.			2. ✓

*for identification*

0 31 55 WH100-P2723 100,000 9/19 HWV T1024 Forms/W3372.3

ENTERED 25 2/21

RECEIVED

# ATTACHMENT #12

19.

**Loos-en-Ghelle. 103/9H.**

CONCENTRATION OF GRAVES (Exhumation and Re-burials).

NOBIAL PLOTCH.

Name of Cemetery of Re-burial Loos. (British) Cemetery.

Map Reference:- Sh. 44a. K. 6. a. 7. 3.

Plot	Row	Grave	Map Reference where body found	Was Cross in Grave?	Regimental particulars.	REMARKS. Name of Institution.	Were any effects forwarded to Base?
6	G	19	H. 26. a. 5. 8.	No.	U. B. S.		
	"	20	"	"	"		
6	H	1	M. 1. b. 10. 5.	"	U. C. S.		
"	"	2	H. 26. c. 10. 9.	"	U. C. OFFICER		
"	"	3	H. 26. a. 5. 8.	"	U. B. S.		
"	"	4	"	"	"		
"	"	5	"	"	"		
"	"	6	"	"	"		
"	"	7	"	"	"		
"	"	8	"	"	"		

CANCELLLED BY  
CERTIFIED REPORT  
Initialed.....

# ATTACHMENT #13

REPORT OF EXHUMATION

Authority :- Exhumation of "Unknowns" in Communal Cemeteries, etc.  
O.R. 5/2579 of 1-5-20.

Under Para. 6/a of D.D.G.R. & E.'s O.R. 3007/3 dated 20/9/20.

Regtl. No. - - -

Rank. - - -

Name. - - -

Regiment. - - -

11 MAR 1921

Place of Burial. PROVINCIAL BRITISH CEMETERY, LOOS. Grave 2.  
44a.B.G.S.7.3. Box 1st Plot 5.

Date of Death. - - -

Date of Exhumation. 23.2.21.

Was cross on grave, if so, give particulars, and inscription, if any. Yes. A G.R.U. Cross reads "UNKNOWN CANADIAN" Officer.

Colour of Hair. None Found.

Height. About 6 ft.

Any physical peculiarities. Teeth very good and even.

Effects found on the body. Nil.

Was an identity disc found on the body. No.

Position of boots, uniform etc. with makers name of boots, if any, also badges, etc. Officers Clothing.

Any other information that may lead to identification. Shot in the head. Body in an advanced state of decay.

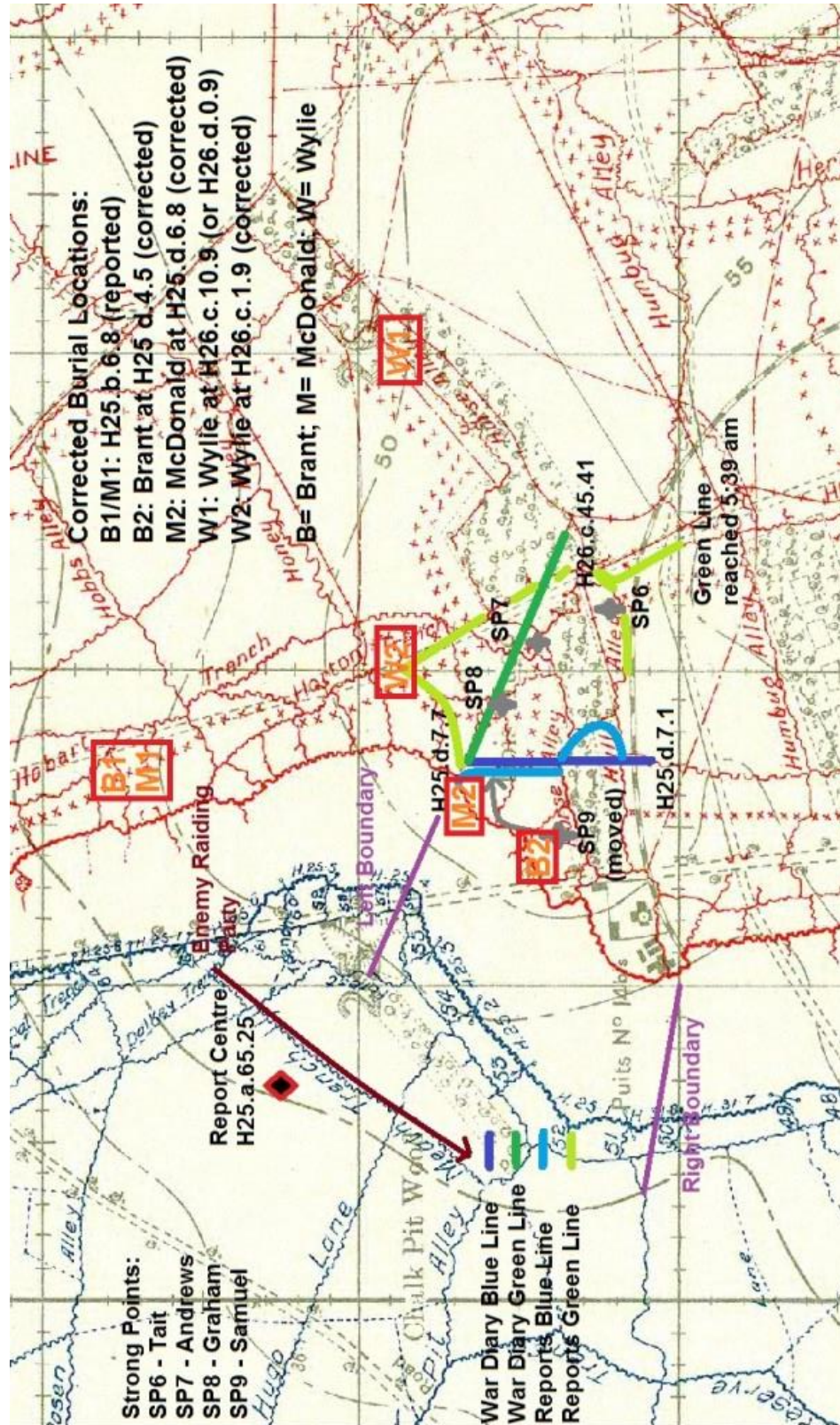
3 Copies to:- D.D.G.R. & E. ST. POL.

Signature of Officer  
Superintending Exhumation.....

J. R. Bhan  
Major,  
D.A.D.G.R. & E.,  
No. 1 District.

2/3/21.

## **ATTACHMENT #14**



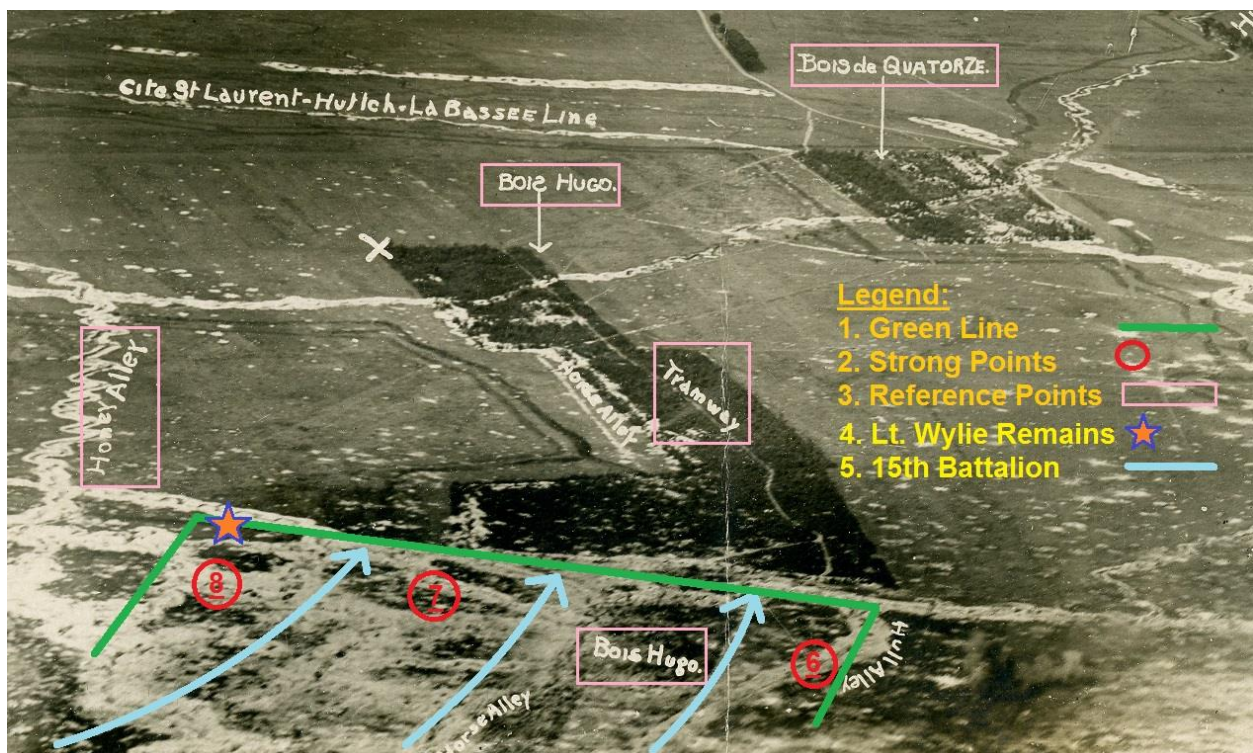
## ATTACHMENT #15

Extracts from pages 258-259 describing burial of No. 3 Company casualties at the Green line.

fighting, if it had to be. Men of broken but unbeaten No. 3 Company carried Lt. Haldane's body back to Battalion H.Q. Because of the continued pounding being given our old front-line

and the old No Man's Land by his heavies, it was impossible to carry many dead to the rear. Most of the gallant dead were buried where they fell, near the new front-line.\*

**Aerial photograph of Green Line on the west perimeter of Bois Hugo looking to the east: (markings by the Report Authors)**



# **ATTACHMENT #16**

## **Record of Services cards with burial map references**

Pte Brant CA.	204555	H25.d.4.5 Remains recovered
Pte Cooke WL.	678106	H25.d.4.5.4.1 Remains recovered
Cpl Bunch B.	27706	H25.d.9.5
Pte Cameron CC.	192190	H25.d.9.5
Pte Dolby W.	400867	H25.d.9.5
Pte Raymond EG	436879	H25.d.9.5
Pte Davies J	204689	H25.d.9.5
Pte Taylor SW	681648	H25.d.9.5
Pte Chappell WJ.	192861	H25.d.8.4 Annotated "at front line."
Pte Hogarth A.	522746	H 25.d.8.4
Pte Lomas HF	228050	H25.d.9.5
Sgt McDonald L	438909	H25.d.9.5 Annotated "Blue Line"
Pte McIntosh NJ	204554	H25.d.9.5
Pte O'Neill PJ	437907	H25.d.9.5
Pte Tyler GE.	799350	H25. d.9.5
Pte Thompson GA.	487451	H25.d.7.7
Pte Perrett HA.	204267	H25.d.7.7
Pte Thompson R.	127268	H25d
Pte Craig C.	254	H25.d.20.30 Annotated "buried in front of our position."
Pte Dunbar J.	193551	H25.d Annotated "in enemy wire"
Pte Fisher CD.	22735	H25.d
Pte Kemp MJ.	204751	H25.d
Pte Crowe AA	192200	H25.d.75.88 "near Bois Hugo"

## **Record of services cards without burial map references or only annotations**

Pte Boag W.	800205	nil
Pte Dougall HW.	63294	nil
Pte Duffey CH.	23126	"front line objective – Green Line."
Pte Grant TP.	799303	nil
Pte Harding TG	678064	"Chalk Alley"
Pte Hartley WH.	603012	nil
Pte Hollingsworth W.	193077	"50 yards short Blue Line."
Pte Houghton RC.	800176	nil
LCpl Lincoln J.	47881	"no man's land."
Pte Marshall AG.	204123	"no man's land."
Pte McMillan A	27931	nil
Pte Ostlund A.	888337	nil
Pte Palmer CP.	408512	nil
Pte Parker FN	799632	nil
Pte Sharman J.	887393	nil
Pte Steen R.	888343	nil
Pte Telfer J.	887401	nil
Sgt Tosh HI.	204221	nil
Pte Walker W.	27270	nil
Cpl Walton RD	193405	nil

## **Regimental History reports location**

Wylie JA	Lieutenant	"Green Line" One of these officer's remains recovered
McDonald DW	Lieutenant	"Blue Line" One of these officer's remains recovered

## ATTACHMENT #17



## **ATTACHMENT #18**

This “*Reporting and Review*” attachment is provided to assist all parties in the submission of an investigative report related to the identification of the burial location, or headstone markings, of a member of the Canadian Expeditionary Force (CEF) during the Great War 1914-1921. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) receives a copy of this report in the event they wish to make changes to the commemoration details. In order to alter the records, the CWGC has set out their criteria for the procedure and submission of cases for review, as detailed below. The CWGC is under no obligation to make changes based on a report.

<b>Procedure:</b>	<b>Guideline Criteria for Submission:</b>
All new identification cases need to be assessed in the first instance by the Canadian Agency (CA) and submissions should go to their office directly. After an initial assessment, if the Agency feels that the case is compelling, they will then pass all the documentation to the Commemorations Team at the Commission's Head Office. Head Office will then review the case and inform the CA of their findings. The Canadian authorities will then decide whether or not any changes to the arrangements for commemoration are required and inform the Commission accordingly.	Cases need to present clear and convincing evidence to prove the identity of a casualty and must not be based on assumption or speculation. The Commission's Commemoration Team will also consider whether the findings of a better informed contemporary investigation are being revisited and if there is any new evidence to consider. By way of example, it is unlikely that the Commission would support a revision of the arrangements for the commemoration where it is apparent that no new evidence is being presented and, a better informed previous decision is being revisited some 100 years later.

The following have participated in the preparation, review and submission of this report on a voluntary basis. Those noted below have read the investigative report and compared it to the criteria set out by the CWGC, as a guiding principle, and have agreed to have their name included as part of the review team. The CWGC may contact any of the reviewers at the e-mail

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>E-mail</b>	<b>Contribution</b>
Greg Young	Brigadier-General (ret) Chairman, 15th Battalion CEF Memorial Project	<a href="mailto:15thbncef@gmail.com">15thbncef@gmail.com</a>	Primary Investigator & Report Author
Richard Laughton	Private Researcher LMC Great War Research Company	<a href="mailto:rlaughton@laughton.ca">rlaughton@laughton.ca</a>	Researcher & Report Author
Tim McTague	Canadian Expeditionary Force Study Group Review Team	<a href="mailto:timmct@verizon.net">timmct@verizon.net</a>	Reviewer